The Institute of Production Techno, logy will provide short, medium and long term Research and Development back up in the field of production technology.

The Institute of Engineering and Ocean Technology will provide support in the field of research including analysis data collection and laboratory facilities in the field of engineering & ocean technology. The institute would also evaluate the suitability of the technology being imported for the first time.

Gas as hydro carbon resource

2281. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of PETRO LEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Advisory Board on Energy in its recent report has concluded that gas would be ma jor hydro carbon resource in the co ming decade; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) The advisory Board on Energy has concluded in its report that gas would be a major hydrocarbon resource in the coming decade.

(b) Proposals have been formula ted for exploration, production and utilisation of additional natural gas in VII Plan.

Supply of kitchen gas

2282. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of PETRO LEUM be please^ to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gas Authority of India Limited propose to supply kitchen gas to 250 towns by the side of H. B. J. pipeline;

(h) if so, the rate at which the gas will,be.supplied; and

(c) by when this will become operative?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a)t to (c) It is propsed to set up three LPG extraction plants along the HBJ pipeline. The LPG available from these plants will meet the requirements of about 47 lakh *new* domestic consumers.

Import of new telecommunications transmission technology

2283. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNI-CATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has a proposal to import new tele-communications transmission technology based on fibre optics;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a proven capacity in the country i.e. in Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) and Tele-Communications Research Centre (TRC) to make complete electronic parts of the transmission system; and

(d) if so, the reasons for ignoring the indigenous potential in this regard;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHBI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M|s. Madh5ra Pradesh Estate Electronics Development Corporation and M|s. Hindustan Cables *l*td.* Rupnarainpur, Burdwan have called tenders for technology transfer 01 Optical Fibre Cable & Line Equip-